

Video experiments

The Community Center for Television Production is a media access organization working in conjunction with the Experimental Television Center, State University of New York at Binghamton. Funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and cooperating with WSKG-TV, Binghamton, CCTP provides access to 1/2-inch videotape equipment for a variety of groups, including volunteer firemen, the Model Cities agency, IBM and student/teacher organizations.

Besides encouraging independent exploration of the TV medium, the Center is committed to the expansion of local TV potential through the influence of video-artists. Noted TV designer Nam June Paik, for example, is presently completing work

on a video color synthesizer which will be available for the community and visiting artists to use in creating video art. Nam June Paik has also involved the Center in various exhibits of video work, and recently agreed to be the subject for the striking experimental visual series shown below (Fig. 1). The series was made from a videotape still, locked into a monitor through a keyer and matter. After initial shooting in the normal manner on 1/2-inch tape, a still-frame of the tape was played through a video keyer which allows manipulation of the image to achieve the effects shown.

Two other experiments, taken straight from the monitor, involve studies of the female nude. In the first (Fig. 2), a

series of two frames were taken with a camera producing RF to a receiver/monitor. The camera was set on Channel 4 and recorded off Channel 8, creating a negative picture and causing the dot structure of the image. This was played back single frame and photographed from a monitor. The second nude study (Fig. 3) was made with a "three camera" set-up running through a special-effects generator and a keyer to 1/2-inch tape. The tapes were then played back through an RF converter to a 7-inch Sony television set.

Pictures for all three experiments were taken with Plus-X film, rated at ASA 125 and developed in D-76. Videotapes and photographs were made by Ralph Hocking, director of CCTP. (JGC)

1.



2.



3.

